

House Resolution 1859

By: Representatives Abdul-Salaam of the 74th, Brooks of the 63rd, Morgan of the 39th, Smyre of the 132nd, Stanley-Turner of the 53rd, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Declaring Coretta Scott King Day in Georgia; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Coretta Scott was born on April 27, 1927, in Heiberger, Perry County, Alabama,
3 near Marion. She was the second of three children born to Obediah Scott, an enterprising
4 entrepreneur, and Bernice McMurray Scott; and in 1945, she enrolled at Antioch College in
5 Yellow Springs, Ohio, pursuing majors in music and education; and

6 WHEREAS, on June 18, 1953, Coretta Scott married Martin Luther King, Jr., with Reverend
7 King, Sr., officiating at the wedding ceremony. Over the next ten years, the couple welcomed
8 four children into their family: Yolanda Denise, November 17, 1955; Martin Luther III,
9 October 23, 1957; Dexter Scott, January 30, 1961; and Bernice Albertine, March 28, 1963;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, in 1956, when her first child was not even a year old, Mrs. King stood by her
12 husband's side as the Montgomery bus boycott began, and never did her support and
13 conviction waver, not when her house was bombed and not when her husband was jailed,
14 assaulted, and murdered for his commitment to human rights. She shared her husband's
15 steadfast commitment to seek peace and justice through nonviolent action and played a
16 leading role in advocating social change across the nation and throughout the world during
17 his lifetime and thereafter; and she continued to be a prominent voice in maintaining the
18 enduring legacy of her husband's dreams to the moment of her death; and

19 WHEREAS, while Dr. King is an undisputed hero of the movement, excelling in the sincerity
20 of his conviction, and his unwillingness to compromise in matters of nonviolence, Mrs. King
21 is a hero in her own right. Sadly, even though she has received many honors, most
22 "mainstream" Americans do not know of her accomplishments, her convictions, and her
23 tireless work on behalf of a free and equal society; and

1 WHEREAS, the members of this body wish to honor the public service and accomplishments
2 of our most accomplished adopted daughter, Coretta Scott King, for her dignified but
3 unyielding stand for equal rights and dignity and for her incalculable contributions to the
4 citizens of this state, our country, and the world.

5 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
6 the members of this body designate April 27 as Coretta Scott King Day in Georgia.

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
8 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the public and the press.